

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. - 20. (canceled)
21. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of ~~18 to 120 nucleotides~~ wherein the sequence of the nucleic acid comprises:
  - (a) ~~at least 18 to 24~~ consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 37404 ~~SEQ ID NOS: 37404, 37418 or 37429;~~
  - (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
  - (c) a sequence at least ~~46/78~~ 80% identical to (a) or (b); or
  - (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).
22. (canceled)
23. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of claim 21, wherein the ~~sequence of the~~ nucleic acid consists of:
  - (a) ~~SEQ ID NO: 37405~~ SEQ ID NO: 37404, ~~37418 or 37429;~~
  - (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
  - (c) a sequence at least ~~46/78~~ 80% ~~nucleotides~~ identical to (a) or (b); or
  - (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).
24. (canceled)
25. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA.
26. (canceled)
27. (canceled)
28. (currently amended) A vector comprising an HCMV nucleic acid, wherein the HCMV nucleic acid consists of: ~~the nucleic acid of claim 21~~
  - (a) 18 to 24 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 37404;
  - (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
  - (c) a sequence at least 80% identical to (a) or (b); or
  - (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).
29. (currently amended) A probe comprising an HCMV nucleic acid, wherein the HCMV nucleic acid consists of: ~~the nucleic acid of claim 21.~~
  - (a) 18 to 24 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 37404;

- (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
- (c) a sequence at least 80% identical to (a) or (b); or
- (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).

30. (canceled)

31. (canceled)

32. (new) The vector of claim 28 wherein the HCMV nucleic acid consists of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO: 37405;
- (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
- (c) a sequence at least 80% identical to (a) or (b); or
- (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).

33. (new) The probe of claim 29 wherein the HCMV nucleic acid consists of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO: 37405;
- (b) an RNA equivalent of (a);
- (c) a sequence at least 80% identical to (a) or (b); or
- (d) the complement of any one of (a)-(c).

34. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 21 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

35. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 23 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

36. (new) The vector of claim 28 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

37. (new) The probe of claim 29 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

38. (new) The vector of claim 32 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

39. (new) The probe of claim 33 wherein (c) is a sequence at least 90% identical to (a) or (b).

40. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 21 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).

41. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 23 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).

42. (new) The vector of claim 28 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).

43. (new) The probe of claim 29 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).

44. (new) The vector of claim 32 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).
45. (new) The probe of claim 33 wherein (c) is a sequence identical to (a) or (b).